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PROJECT THUNDERBOLT AUDIT TRAIL

REPORT NUMBER: 1 DATED: 26 October 1972

(COMMAND GROUP AUDIT TRAIL OF MAJOR ACTIONS)

Agency: MACCORDS-RA Submitted by: COL Davis/M-4442

PART 1

SUBJECT: Hamlet Evaluation System (HES) (U)

- Discussion:

  -- The Hamlet Evaluation System (HES) is an automated system for evaluating the status of pacification in the hamlets and villages of South Vietnam.

  -- At the present time, approximately 40% of the HES field reports are originated by US Military District Senior Advisors (DSA's).

  -- Generally, these DSA's are reporting from the less-secure and contested areas while the Vietnamese HES reporters are originating the report in more pacified districts.

  -- Upon the departure of all military DSA's, the HES reporting function would probably be turned over to the Vietnamese HES reporters in each district.

  -- This Vietnamization of the HES system would undoubtedly result in a management information system of questionable validity.

- Major actions to be accomplished:

  -- A decision at the highest MACV levels must be made as to the value of retaining the HES in a ceasefire environment.

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-- If the HES will be retained, at least a skeleton U.S. civilian advisory effort will be required in all provinces and a rapid and complete Vietnamization of the HES Management Information System should be avoided in order to maintain that system's validity. Additional USAID civilian personnel may have to be recruited to replace the incumbent military DSA's.